AM SEMENTS THIS EVENING.

BOWERY THE STRE, Sowery-Uncle Ton' Care BROADWAY TURATRE, Boadway-Two SCREAKER-

BUSTON'S THEATRE Chambers street-Paul Fry-

NATIONAL THEATAS, Chatham ricest-Afternoon-Lawren harr. Econog-There Ton a Canes. WALLA R'S THEATRE, Drondway-Backgas or

AMERI AN MUSEUF ASSESSMENT TOM THUMS-PADDY BEOADWAY MENAGRELE-SIAMESE TWINSAND WILL BRANTS

CHI I ST'S AMERICAN OPERA HOUSE, 472 Bread-WIGHT SINSTREES, Wood's Minetel Hall, 444 Broad-

BUCKLEY'S OPERA HOUSE, 539 Broadway-Buck-

BANVANDS GEORANA, 505 Broadway-Panonava or BHENIEH GALLERY, 603 Sycalway-Day and Evening.

SIGNOR BLITZ-STUVYESANT INSTITUTE, 650 Broad-ACADEMY HALL 663 Broadway-Perhan's Gift Ex Mintigs of the Even Mile Minnon.

HOPE CHAPES, 718 Brindway-Junes' Pauroscore.

BRYAN GALLERY OF CHRISTIAN ART -80 Broad-

Malls for the Pacific.

THE NEW YORK WREELY SERALD. The United States mail steamship George Law, Capta MaGowan, will leave this port this afternoon, at two p'elock, for Asplawall. The mails for California and other parts of the Pacino

will close at one o'elock. The NEW York Waters Hanard, Children's edition, edi baining the latest intelligence from all parts of the world,

will be published at ten o'clock this morning.

Hingle copies dispense. Agents will please send in

Matts for Europe.

THE NEW YORK WEAKLY HERALD. The United States mail steamship Balsic, Capt. Com stock, will leave this port at noon to-morrow for Liver-

Subscriptions and advertisements for any edition of the NEW YORK HERALD will be received at the following place

In Europe —
Livishoot - John Hunter, No 2 Paredies street,
London - Fowards, Sandford & Co., No. 17 Cornhill
Win Thomas & Co., No. 18 Cutherine street,
Parts - Livisgron Well & to., 8 Place de la Source.
B. H. Savoli, No. 1; Rus de la Escaque. The European mails will close at half past ten o'close

to-morrow meraing.

The Weskin Brazin, (poluted in French and Eaglish, will be published at half-past nine o'clock to morros morning. Single copies, in wrappers, simpones

The News.

Our columns are crowded to day with highly lim portant and interesting information of every description. That which will doubtless attract the most general attention is the outline of the Gadsder treaty with Mexico, together with the anhouncement of its reception by the Cabinet in Washington. In connection with this matter we publish several entertaining items of Mexican news, one of which states that the reported demolition of the Lower California fillbusters was fully credited.

Ex-Governor Foote, of Mississippi, addressed the Democratic General Committee at Stayvesant Institute last evening. He excorlated the spoilsmen a Washington, and gave a full resume of the political history of the country, and the present condition of things. We give a detailed report of the speech another place. Governor Foote departs for Call fornia to-day.

The proceedings in Congress, yesterday, wer again of a very exciting and interesting character In the Senate quite a spirited debate took place by tween Messrs. Gwln, Bright, and others, on a reso pution offered by the former gestleman asking nformation with regard to the naval force in Call foreig at the time of the departure of the filibuster expeditions against Lower California and Sonora. In the course of the argument Mr. G. stated that only two vessels of war were engaged in the protection of our interests on the entire line of five thousand miles of the Pacific coast-one of these was stationed at the Sandwich Islands and the other was ordered to Peru, thus leaving filibusters and others to do as they pleased, without let or hindrance. The proclamation of the President for the suppression. of these unlawful expeditions is like looking the door after the horse is gone. It is too late to be of service. Among the petitions received was on from this city relative to the San Francisco calamity. and another from Philadelphia remonstrating against the establishment of a mint in New York. The Serate adjourned till Monday.

Mr. Hughes, member from the Pincenth distric of this State, made his maiden speech in the House, in reply to Mr. Cutting, upon the subject of the troubles in the ranks of the New York democracy. Mr. Cutting, it is understood, will make a rejoinder to-day. This intestine dispute is said to be creating quite as much sensation in the political circles at Washington as it did in this State at the time of the last election. The war, having now literally become a national issue, will doubtless be carried on with the utmost vigor till one or other of the parties is driven from the field. Read Mr. Hughes' defence of the administration and its free soil allies, and then await the reply of Mr. Cutting.

For a comprehensive and instructive insight into various of the peculiar political manœuvres of the day in course of fermentation at the State capital the der is referred to the letters from our correspondent, published in another page. In a pecuniary point of view, it may, perhaps, be fortunate for taxpayers that both branches of the Legislature are com pletely in the hands of men who are believed to be disposed to strictly adhere to the usages of their party-else protracted debates upon the various measures to be introduced might again make it incumbent on the Governor to call for an extra session in order to secure the completion of at least a portion of the work actually necessary to be done. As ye no discussion of consequence has taken place in either house-members having thus far confined themselves almost exclusively to introducing and voting upon bills. To be sure, a warm debate has been going on in the Senate for some days upon the resolution approxing o the proposed purchase of Mount Vernon by the general government, to which Mr. Morgan desired to append a free soil amendment providing that slave labor should never again be introduced on the estate; but both the resolution and amendment were tabled by a vote of seventeen to twelve yesterday Notice was given in the course of the day of a bill to amend the charter of this city, and a petition wasre ocived requesting the Legislature to provide medals for the rescuers of the San Francisco's passengers The Assembly reconsidered the vote ordering the printing of the report of the committee to repeal the bill for the Nineteenth Ward Park, after which both the report and bill were tabled. A proposition to charter sixpenny savings banks was voted down The bill to so amend the State constitution as to make it a penal offence to bribe voters or otherwise corruptly interfere with the elective frauchise wa raken up and referred to the Committee of the Whether the party now in power will have the fearlessness to virtually carry out this important measure remains to be accertained.

The Board of Councilmen met last night, and disal of numerous resolutions, petitions, and reports amittees, none of which were of any great innce. The Board concerned with the Board of

the passengers of the ill-rated San Francisco from inevitable dears; and the chairman appointed Measrs. Wild, Heights r, and Serley as the members of the committee to co-operate with the comm free from the other Board in carrying out the views expressed in the resolutions complimentary to the masters of these vessels. After some time spent in Committee of the Whole on the report of the Committee on Assessments, the Board adjourned until six o'clock

A variety of interesting matter relative to the San Francisco calamity, is given elsewhere, including a letter from Capt. Fremont, who was a passenger on board the ill fated steamer, to the brave Capt, Low, of the bark Kilby. We learn that the committee o merchants have now raised about nine thousand dollars for the purchase of medals, devices, &c., for the rescuers of the sufferers on board the San Francisco.

Hon. Robert M. Charlton died at Savanush, on Wednesday. Judge Charlton served in the Senate during the last session of the Thirty-second Congrees, having been appointed by the Governor to fill the vacancy occasioned by the relignation of Mr. Rhett.

Much of our space is again occupied with the details of the r ilrand troubles at Erie. Our correspendent has given a graphic sketch of the operations of the female rioters, their demolition of bridge lynching of a railroad director, procession through the streets, &c. In connection with this matter we have a despatch from Harrisburg, stating that a series of resolutions have been offered in the lower trauch of the Pennsylvania Legislature which admit the dangerous character of the interruptions t travel, and request the people of Eric to respect the laws and decisions of the courts until matters are adndicated. In the Senate a bill forfe ting the charter of the Franklin Canal Company underwent a second reading

The British schooner Time, of Nassan, has been se zed and placed in the hands of the anthorities of Norfolk, on a charge of violating the revenue laws. Late accounts from Prince Edward's 1-land state that a large number of houses, barns and trees were blown down and many cattle killed, during the gale on the 23d uit. St. Paul's Church, at Charlottetown,

was unroofed and otherwise badly damaged. We learn from Charleston that the steamship Black Warrier, having been completely repaired, would leave immediately for Havana. It is said that the derangement to her machinery was triding, and the whole expense of repairing it did not exceed four or five hundred dollars.

Mr. Bayard Taylor delivered an interesting lecture last evening before the members of the Mechanics' Institute and a large audience. The lecture was given in the form of a narrative, interspersed with numerous amusing anecdotes, the author's own experion ce of Arab life.

In consequence of the loss of Metropolitan Hall. the managers of the National Poultry Society me at the Aster House last evening, and decided * hold their flist show at Barnum's Museum, com mencing on the 13th of next menth. No addit tional charge is to be made for admission, and exhibitom are to be admitted free. Indeed, they will be under no expense for keeping their fowls while is the city, and, in addition, most of the railroads have agreed to transport the poultry free of charge. A het of remiums, amounting to \$500, has been agreed upon. The highest gives \$50 for the best fowl, the second \$25, and so on down for all the varieties known.

The Cunard steamship Cambria, for this port, via Havre and Scuthampton, has been nineteen days in making the passage to Hallfax. She left Southamp ton on the 31st ult., the same day that the Europa sailed from Liverpool. The Niagara is about due at Halifax, with dates to the 7th inst -one week later We shall probably have her news to-morrow or nex

The Mexican Treaty-Its Arrival to Wash ington-Meeting of the Cabinet.

Our telegraphic advices from Washington inform us that General Gadsden's treaty has eached Washington. Immediately after its reception by the President, a Cabinet Council was held, and active opposition manifested itself at once against its provisions. Our correspondents throw out the idea that it will no be submitted to the Senate-but we shall see It is therefore important to the nation that its leading features are known; and it would be still more important if the history of the late negotiations with Mexico could be fully developed.

We have no doubt but that Gen. Gadsden in making the treaty, has gone far ahead of his instructions from Jefferson Davis and and that if he had not come United States with the document it would, in all probability, have received little favor at the hands of the present administration until pruned of its objectionable feature in the eves of free sollers-the acquisition of more Southern territory. There is every reason to believe that the depial which appeared in the official paper of the first announcement of a treaty with Mexico had this particular object in view and that the messenger which was sent from Washington in such haste a week or two since, bore instructions to General Gadsden to amend the project of treaty which was sent by him to his overnment on the 17th December, so as to avoid all territorial acquisitions whatever beyond what was absolutely essential for a route to the l'acide. Like a skilful general however. Mr. Gadsden did not walt for this re buff, but has come home to take care of his work. Once before the public, it is out of the power of the administration to resist public opinion by smothering the treaty because of its territorial features.

A great many speculations have been indulged in by our cotemporaries as to the termof the treaty in question; but it is not at at remarkable to find that all these statements are but a rehish of the information published more than ten days ago exclusively in the New YORK HERALD, and which was at the time officially contradicted by the Washington Union at the direct instance of the President. The subject is a curious one, and a review of the facts behind the curtain will prove both amus ing and instructive.

We are informed that, upon the arrival of the HERALD in Washington announcing the facthat General Gadsden had forwarded to the Department of State a projet of treaty with Mexico, the President sent for the editor of the Union, and directed him to deny that there was the slightest foundation of truth in the statement. The Union accordingly announced that the whole story was a fabrication, and that such fabrications were characteristic of the NEW YORK HERALD and its correspondents. S auxious was the President to have the contradiction circulated, and to invalidate the information given by us, that it was telegraphed in every direction that the Union intended to officially deny the "hoax," perpetrated by that Satanic press, the Herald.

A day or two after this coup d'état on the part of the President, a gentleman intimately connected with the "Sloo grant," and who quite naturally felt a deep interest in all the facts of the case -as the rumored treaty was favorable to Garay and adverse to Sloo -learned, in conversation with the Mexican Minister, then at Washington, that notwithstanding the explicit denial of the official organ, the announcement in

city to the captains of the Three Bells, Kilby, and projet of treaty was actually in possession of Lucy Thompson, for their public conduct in rescuing the government: that its provisions were substantially as stated by the Henand; and finally, that General Gadsden had communicated the fact that all that Ean's Anna desired in order to secure his acquiescence was to know that Prosident Pierce would endorse the projet sal . related to him.

Here was a discovery calculated to aston ,sh the gentleman interested in the Sloog ant. and without further delay he repaired to the White House. Arriving there, he at o' see informed the President of the nature of the conversation he had just held with the Mexican Minister. The President confessed that since he had authorized the explicit contradiction to the HERALD'S fannouncement fresh information had come to his knowledge which put an entirely different complexion upon the matter. The gentleman urged that as no later mail had been received from Mexico since the appearance of the Union's article it was scarcely possible any further information could have been had. The President bowever, cut the interview short by declaring that he would allow no person to doubt his word or cross-examine him, and thereupon, the gentle-

man vanished. We do not charge it upon the President that he knowingly authorized the Union to impose upon the public by a false statement. Let us rather charitably suppose that Mr. Marcy die not deem it necessary to tell the nominal head of the government the facts till after the publication in the Union. General Gadsden, it is understood-and the statement was made in our telegraphic columns some days ago-did write to the State Department, on the 16th of December, that he had not succeeded in effecting any arrangement with the Mexican authorities, and that the prospect of a satisfactory conclusion was not flattering. The mall, however, did not leave the city of Mexico till the 17th of December; and it was upon that day that Gen. Gadsden was able to communicate to Washington the facts which afterwards created such a sensation upon their appearance in our columns. Mr. Marcy, let us hope, adopted the homeopathic principle, and administered to the President Gadsden's despatches in small doses-giving him the letter of the 16th to digest for a few days before handing him the letter of the 17th, which contained the cream of the whole matter.

The Union people are very sore at the sllly part they have been made to play, and one of the editors was indiscreet enough to declare that if the administration desired to have a paper to lie by authority they must hunt up some one else for the work. The public will scarcely appreciate such squeamishness in that particular quarter.

The arrival of General Gadsden with a treaty actually agreed upon is easily accounted for. On the 17th ult. our Minister at the city of Mexico wrote that the Mexican government had given assurances that the projet of treaty submitted by him would meet their approval if he could show that the government of the United States would ratify such a treaty. Meantime. Santa Anna's necessities are daily growing more urgent. His only hope of continuance in power rests upon his ability to keep his purse filled. An empty treasury would hard him from the seat he occupies with greater certainty than all the efforts of his foes combined could effect. He, therefore, deter mined to waive mere ceremony, and without waiting for the formal sanction of the treaty by the authorities at Washington, signed it at once, and hurried General Gadsden to the United States, so as to secure the millions which the convention is to give him.

The treaty thus agreed to by Mexico is the ame which we gave an outline of two weeks ago It settles all existing difficulties, and gives us a ate known to be practicable through our own territory to the Pacific. It will extend our boundary down to the thirty-first parallel, taking in a portion of Chihuahua and half of Sonora. Should the treaty become the law of the land-as it will unquestionably if the President does his duty and sends it to the Senate-a new Southern State will at once ock at our doors for admission into the Union. Already a large party in California are agitating the propriety of dividing the State so as to carve a slave State out of it. With these acquisitions, the question would assume such an aspect as to put down all opposition, and create a new Southern State immediately.

This is the question now presented for the consideration of President Pierce and his Cabinet: and we can readily believe our correspondents when they telegraph us that there is tronble at the west end of Pennsylvania avenue, and that the arrival of the treaty at Washington has caused a commotion in the Cabinet But from whom does the opposition come?

Another Destructive Fire.-It is our painful task again to record another of those destructive confiagrations that have within the last few months swept away property to au amount that would cover a year's losses by the same cause in three of the largest European cities. This time, happily, the disaster has not fallen upon the hard-earned results of private enterprise; but it is, nevertheless, equally to be deplored, from the public loss and inconvepience that it must necessarily occasion. In the partial destruction of the New City Hall last night we have received another of those severe lessons which have been of such frequent occurrence of late, and which, will fear, we require to be still further multiplied before the pub lic become impressed with the necessity of guarding against the causes that lead to them We have so lately had occasion to enlarge upon those causes, and to point out in particular the danger arising from the use of imperfectly constructed flues, that it would be a waste of time and space were we again to dwell upon them. We have exhausted all the arguments that can be used upon the subject, but it is vain to appeal either to the fears or the interests of the owners of private dwellings. They must continue to suffer the consequences of their own folly until the frequency of the unisance compells some legislative remedy. With public buildings, however, the case is different. There the control of their construction and management is placed in the hands of officials who ought to be made responsible to the public for the careful discharge of their trust. Whether these disasters arise from recklessness of their own interests on the part of householders, o from carelessness on that of the public servants it is high time that some coercive measures should be taken to diminish the frequency of their occurrence.

The Alderman in Contempt.

miniment of Alderman Sturterant, for the ampt of the order of the Superior Court, of which he has bren adjudged guilty, was forwarded on Wednesday after none to the Sherill, atcompanied, however, by a stay of preciedings us if Saturday, when the case will be have in determining to offer the freedom of the I the NEW YORK HERAL D was really true: that a | brought up before Judge Bosworth, in the Superior Court.

HED ON AND HIS ASSAILANTS .- As we publish ad the other day a long communication in fence of Dr. Bedini, and assailing Padre Go. /azzi. we now give place to two letters which take the opposite side of the controversy. It is not difficult to strike a balance between the combatants. In the first place, all the stories in relation to Bedini's conduct in Italy most be dismissed from the controversy as irrelevant. We have nothing to do here with the antecedents of the ecclesiastic whom Pius IX, thought fit to secredit to our government, and that government thought fit to receive. Whether Bedini. who is well known to have taken a leading part in the struggle between the constituted authorities and the revolutionary factions, actually participated in the shocking scenes which disgraced the conflict, or counselled the assassination of Ugo Bassi and other Italian patriots. we have no right, no authority, to inquire. We receive him as the envoy of a temporal prince, and as nothing more. If he oversteps the bounds of his authority we must call him back. If he attempts to settle territorial disjutes here we must gently but firmly remind him of our rights and his position. But even if it were proved beyond controversy that he had devised and ordered the tortures in which so many of the revolutionists of 1848 met their death-if he had flaved Bassi alive, as his enemies assert-these crimes would not relieve us from the duty of treating him with respect, or debar him from his claims to protection. As to Gavazzi, on the other hand, our opinion remains just what it was. Our correspondent's assertion to the contrary notwithstanding, we don't think he has made many converts among the Catholics. or done much for the cause of European demoeracy. This opinion we imagine is shared by most intelligent Protestants. Gavazzi would never have been as popular as he became at one time had not the stupid Irish papers abused him and a parcel of brutal wretches in Lower Canada tried to assassinate him. These attacks gave him a notoriety which he never could have obtained otherwise.

Koszta Again .- Our notice of Martin Koszta's destitute condition, published in yesterday's HERALD, has elicited the following letter from Messrs, Meade Brothers :-

NEW YORK, Jan. 19, 1854.

James G. Bennrit, Esq.:

Dear Sir.—Will you oblige us with the address of Martin Kerta or bi friend? We notice by the Herald of this morning that he is in a destitute condition, and we can be of considerable service to him. Yours, yery respectfully. Yours, very respectfully, MEAUE BROTHERS, per S. H. W.

We should be happy to satisfy the inquiry here put to us, but we are entirely ignorant of Koszta's whereabouts. We, who have made neither medals, nor glory, nor fame as a states man, out of the poor Hungarian, have not felt it incumbent upon us to keep trace of him. The Hungarian Committee or Mr. Marcy are much more likely to know all about him. Let Messrs Meade drop a note to the Secretary, and they will soon obtain all the information they desire.

PRACTICAL BENEVOLENCE.-We insert with pleasure the following letter, which does credit to the heart of the writer:-

Theatre, Jan. 18, 1854.

Dear Sin:—Having read the article in the Herald of to day, relative to the distress of the widow and orphans in Brooklyn, upon the principle that every inter helps. I beg to enclose fifteen dollars, to add to the subscription that is going on. Yours, very truly, J. W. Wallack.

One of our Wall street cotemporaries seem to think that the exercise of benevolence should be limited to one, and that not the most atfractive, portion of the human family. It is well that all do not give this narrow interpretation to that divine virtue which should cover a plurality of races as well as of sins. Let him take a lesson from the Christian example of one of that proscribed class whose pursuits, according to his bigoted notions, exclude them from all chances of the Kingdom of Heaven.

THE SMITHS, NORTH AND SOUTH .- Congress has been entirely occupied of late by the two Smiths and their speeches. Smith of the South spends the time of the House in ridiculing the Union democrats of the North. Smith of the North does the same thing by abusing the slaveholders of the South. Could not these two Smiths be locked up somewhere by themselves, so that the business of Congress might

More Black Benevolence,-We see by the Journal of Commerce of yesterday morning that it has succeeded in raising \$1,100 for another black family. Did anybody ever hear of the Journal raising a single cent for a case of distress where the parties were white? Is it absolutely necessary to have thick lips, woolley hair, and an ebony skin, to move our cotemporary's bowels of compassion? We begin to think it is.

To NIMGARA FAILS AND THE WEST .- Passengers can no be carried to Niagara Falls and Buffalo by the Eric Rall-read, as this read connects with the Casandaigus and Misgava Falls Raligoad. The last named road also con reets with the Consedaigus and Elmira, the Great West ern, and the Michigan Central, forming a point from which railroads extend into Plinois, Wisconsin, Michigan and Upper Canada The road is built on the broad gaugand the comfort, safety and speed of passongers is cared for. The reemry is not exceeded for beauty and variety in the United States.

City Intelligence.

PROGRESS OF ROWDYDM -A few evenings ago a gentle man and two lidles started in a stage from up town for Wallack's theatre. When about half way down, one or the ladice got up and asked the gentleman to exchange scats with her, as she had been grossly insulted. The gentleman of course insisted upon the ruffian leaving the stage, and upon belog resisted caught him by the throat and run him back to the door. It seems, however, that the rascal had a companion on the opposite seat, who tripped the gentleman up, and snatched his cape awa rom him. A regular meles then ensued, in which, hal i not been for the presence of mind of the ladies the -one of whom received some severe contustons-the gan leman might have got the worst of it. As it was, th leman might have got the worst of it. As it was, the two rewdies were expelled from the stage. A crowd of fifty or a hundred persons had by this time collected, but among them all not a polleeman to be seen. It is no more than justice to the proverbial chivalry of the American character to say that there were three other munistakeable American gentlemen in the cumitous, not one whom raised a suger in the affair, but all of whom observed that patient, examplary recurrality, which becomes republicans. Such seems at these are of daily and almost hously occurrance. What with rewdyism, robbery, and recklessness, to live in New Yor is just about as dangerous as to be in the milist of a bombarded city. As to the police, with their bine surtous, guit buttors and start, who cost us over a million a year, they are never by any chance to be seen. Five reform! Fice hunding!

PRETTY GOOD GRAE —Among the bills recently precented PRESTY GOOD GRAN -Among the bills recently presented to the Ecard of Supervisors was one against the Fifth

courts, amounting to \$105. The Supervisors have not jet been able to discover any law authorizing them to pay for the furniture and law libraries of ambitious ward magistrates, but they doubt'ers will do so in good time magistrates, but they doubt'ers will do so in good time.

The For Yermenar—Voyage or a Ferrar Boar.—The fog
on the river yesterdey was very dense, and the ferry
boats were enabled to make their trips with great difficulty. It was necessary at one time to riog the fog bell
in or her to direct the boats to their innoling places. Onof the Williamsburg ferry boats left her whast for the
city in clear weather, but had not reached the New York
side before a dense fog aross and completely enveloped
her, the ran against the pier at the foot of Corleantreet, and then do ited across the river to Brooklya
where she again cause in collision with a wharf at jeenext yyard. She broke her radder, and being unablis to
proceed to the city her gaussagers left her and was helto the Fulton ferry, by which they arrived at New York

district court, for a deak costing \$35, and a quantity of

law books, including a regular law library for the high-

ANOTHER TERRIBLE CONFLAGRATION.

THE NEW CITY HALL IN RUINS. Loss of Over One Hundred Thousand Bollars Worth of Property.

THE LAW LIBRARY SAVED. BISTORY OF THE BUILDINGS,

&c., &c., &c.

We are again called upon to record another terrible fire with which our city has been vidted. There seems to be a special fatality, at the present time, resting upon the metropolis, for no sooner is the record of one coufisgration completed than another takes place, and before the smoke has died away from the ruins of Metropa-I tau Hall, the public buildings of the Park are clothed in deme.

About four o'clock yesterday afternoon the new City Hall was discovered to be on fire, and the alarm was immediately sounded throughout the city. The origin of the fire was from the flues in the upper stories of the building, in the Commissioners of Central Park Committee room, over the Superior Court rooms. When two or three of the reserved force of police from the Chist's office first arrived on the spot, the fire was breaking through the celling over the Superior Court room, in the southeast corner, and was also coming through the waves of the building. The spot then burning was not more than ten leet square, but the woodwork was so dry that the flames ignited like a flash of powder, and soon enveloped the entire court room.

During the firs the scene from the top of the City Hail

was truly grand. Within the space of half as hour from the time of the first discovery of the flames, the entire roof of the new City Hall was in a blaze. Being of wood, the flames rau along it with surgrising quickness. Some the Park was crowded with fire companies and spectators From Broadway on one side to Park row on the other and between the burning building and the City Hal itself, there was one dense mass of human beings. dreds rushed for the roof of the City Hall, from which view could be had of the entire affair. Thousands who made their way to the scene of conflagration expected to find the City Hall itself on fire, or the store of Mesara, A T. Stewart & Co. From a distance, the City Hall clock seemed to be enveloped in the volumes of flame and smoke, which led to the above conjectures. The atmos phere being very dense, the smake straggled upward through it with great difficulty, and a strong wind carried it in clouds over the City Hall before it ascended. The fire burned from the roof downwards. First the entire toof was blazing beyond the effective control of the fire men, on account of its height and extent, the length of it being about three hundred feet. Then the flames enwrapped the story below, and when it had extended to erabled to reach it with their streams, and compel it to yield to their efforts. The new fire proof building lately created at the east end of this range of building was not at all damaged. The police were stationed at each window of this building with buckets of water and by the aid of a strong wind blowing from it they were enrabled to keep the flames from entering it.

The firemen were untiring in their labors until the flames were subdued. At about six o'clock they gained the mastery over the "devouring element," and before seven o'clock it had done its work, and now only rolled up its dense clouds of black smoke from the smouldering pile. Among the firemen from the distant districts on we noticed James McLeod, foreman of the Harlem Hock and Ladder Company. Perceiving the fiames to be wrapping themselves apparently around the beliry and clock of the City Hall, the confiagration was known to be a disastrous one and needing the assistance of every member of the department.

The pelice also deserve much credit, for their active and valuable assistance. The reserved force at the Chiefs office, were instartly on the spot, and a great amount of the property saved was by their exertions. It is well worthy of remark that the Calef, Mr. Mateell, although laboring under a serious injury of his ancle, received at the late burning of the Metropolitan Hall, was personally on the ground, rendering every assistance within his power. It was not till the flames were subdued that he yielded to the solicitations of the Mayor and Recorder to care the fire, fearing his exposure might aggravate his present injuries and lead to a serious result.

PUBLIC DOCUMENTS SAVED. As soon as it was perceived that the entire row of Sulldings would probably fall, the entire force of police, and the fremen who could be spared from their engine were immediately at work, saving all the papers and

public decuments pessible. Fx Alderman Peck, the newly elected Tax Commissioner was the first in his office, and all the books of his depart ment, together with the public papers, were removed to the Comptroller's office, and thus preserved.

The books and valuable documents of the United States farsball were carried into the building of the new Court of Sessions, and also saved.

The papers of the Counsel of the Corporation were also taken from the office before the fire had reached them. Most of the public offices in the basement were damaged only by water, and the valuable papers, being in safes, were preserved. We will give the effices in each story, west end, to wares Broadway

BASEMENT. The Commissioners of Repairs and Supplies-Damaged by water; books and papers saved.

Collector of Assessment-Books and papers preserved. Altorney to the Corporation -- In this office there was a h was saved from the fire.

The Receiver of Taxes, Tax Commissioners, the Coroner's office, the City Inspector, and Commissioners of Emigraice, complete the public offices in the basement, and tion of their books and papers. They were all, however looded with water, and will be compelled to seek a new locality for the future. We have received the following

COMMISSIONERS OF PHIGRATION. COMMISSIONERS OF FRISHATION.

Picate to mention in your report of to morrow concerning the fire is the New City Hall, that the office of the Commissioner of Emigration will be temporarily piacel at No 27 Canal sizest, or in the office, as heretofore, at the east wing of the building, if the water will allow the removal of deske thereto. Books and records all safe.

Mr. WALSH, Chief Clerk.

FIRST STORY. The law library.—The volumes were mostly saved

though not without some damage from their tumbling The Coursel to the Corporation, the chambers of the Supreme Court, the offices of the United States District Attorney, the United States Marshal, and the United States Commissioners, complete the offices on this story.

The office of the United States District Attorney was in

the middle of the range where the fire burned through to the basement. We naderstand that all his papers, however, were preserved, together with his valuable I brary.

SECOND STORY.

The second story, through the entire length of the building, was occupied as court rooms. On the west and towards Broadway, was the Superior Court and Chambers; next, occupying the centre of the range, was the Court of Terminer and Supreme Court ; and on the east end was the United States Courts and the U. S. Courts Clark's office. All of these court rooms were entirely de-stroyed. Most of them had lately been fixed up and farnished by the city at a heavy expense.

At the time of the fire the Superior Court had adjourned,

and Judge Hoffman had been gone about twenty minutes. W. R. D. Livingston, clerk of the general term, and Mr Bennet, were in the court room when the alarm was When the fire began to increase they ordered the book cases to be broken open, and the library and the Judge's private papers were removed into an adjoining room, and thence carried to a place of safety. Mr. Augustus Clason and Mr. A R. Lawrence, Jr., assisted materially in saving the property of the Superior Court-in the court room of the Oper and Terminer next ad plaing, there was no library or property of any kind other than the furniture of the room.

In the Supreme Court, there was a small library, which

The Judges of the United States Court, possessed a va luable law library in a room adjoining the court, which was entirely preserved, being carried into the new fire proof building on the east end of the range.

Judge Betts, as soon as he learned of the disaster, hurried to the City Hall, where he received the gratifying intelligence from the Chief of Police, that the entire library of the Judges, together with their private papers, were saved from the flames.

much as, if burned, it could not be replaced except with much labor and research. This library, therefore, claimed the especial attention of the police and firemen, and the books were mostly preserved from the flames. Orders were immediately given to carry them away, and within the space of a few minutes the entire library, sun but g a me dir thousand volumes, were transferred from their she was to the Chief's office and to other public places. Many volumed were, no doubt, injured and dear yed from being tumbled about in the mud and fire, but the general preservation of the library from total has was forthe ate for the New York bar. This library was established in the year 1830, and up

to the perent time has cost its members a sum not short of one hundred the use of deliars. Since its organization; the incidental expenses for salaries, to., may be set down at about thirty the used dollars, leaving seventy thousand dollars as the sunchase money of the library itself. This may seem as enormous sum to expend for six thousand volumes, but it must be borne in mind that the cost of legal publications is much greater than for any other works. The money that would purchase a select law library of six thou and volumes would pur-chase a good miscellaneous library of thirty thousand. The New York Law Library was established wholly by the members of the New York har, all hout any foreign ald or appropriation. To the Hou Channellor Kent, Judge McCoup, the la'e Judge Paire, the Hon. Ogden Hoffman, Judge Duer, John Authon, Hugh Maxwell, Tuatcher T. Payre, and others, belong the honor of establishing this library for the bar of New York and which is, at the present time, the fourth large library in the United

It is precessed of all the important American legal publications, as well the most useful English and French works. The present income of the library is between three and four thousand dollars yearly, and it has about four numbered man bers. The terms of mem bership are-Initiation fee \$.0, and annual dues \$10, until the sum of \$100 is paid, when a certificate of stock is issued freeing the member from all further regular payments. The Library is used wholly for reference by the lawyers, in trying their cases before the course. The volumes are not allowed to be taken beyond the limits of volumes are not shower to be laters beyond the library the rooms it occupied in the new City Hall, as an equivalent for its free use by heads of departments of the city. It was nelected with great care, on the part of its original founders, and its loss would be a great calematy to the preference. It was insured for \$10,000, which will more than make good whatever loss it may have sustained by present configgration.

HISTORY OF THE BUILDING DESTROYED. One of the most important review of the public build-ings of this city, erected at the close of the eighteenth century, it was be seen by the above account, has fallen before the destructive element of are. The building successively known as the "Almshouse," the "New York Institution," and the 'New City Hall," in which many law courts were held, and various public offices were located, has been des royed by tire.

The building referred to was a brickedifice, two hun-

dred and sixty feet in length by forty four broad, with two projections in front, fifteen feet by twenty, and was three stories in height besides the basement. The front was on Chambers street, with numerous entrances from the rear on the Park. Fr m its elevated and healthy situation, this spot was fixed upon in the year 1705, when the population of the city was about forty thousand, and there were but few buildings above the Park-as a proper place on which to erest an almshouse for the increasing poor of the city; and from this period, for over twenty years, down to the early part of 1816, when the panpers were removed to the Almshouse at Bellevue, 12 was applied to that purpose. Shortly after, the Common Council, on the application of the scientific institutions of this city, munificently granted them the use of the building for a term of ten years; in consequence of which its name was changed from the "Almahouse," to that of "New York Institution." The different rooms in the building were then occupied as follows :-

1. The literary and Philosophical Society.
2. The Historical Society.
3. The American Anademy of Fine Arts.
4. The Lyceum of Natural History.
5. Scudeer's American Museum.
6. The Deaf and Damb Institution.
7. The Ecard of Health.
8. The Society for Improving the Condition of Domestic Servants.

Soudder's American Museum was originally located in

Chathem street, near Snambers street, from which it was removed to the building belonging to the city now destroyed. After remaining in that building, rent free, for ten years, it was removed to the place new occupied by Barnum's Museum. Soudder's Museum was united with Peale's Museum, a small concern established by one of the Peales of Philadelphia, in room; over Francis' bookstore, in Broadway. After the death of Mr. Soudder the

united museums were sold to Barnum.

In front of the building now in ruins, when it was oncupled by Soudder for his measure, there was a balcony, on which a band of music occasionally performed during pleasant evenings, particularly in the summer season. It was in reference to this music, which attracted gay and

fashionable avening promenades, that Halleck wrote the following lines in his poem of "Farny":— There's music in the dash of waves,
When the swift bark cleaves their foam;
There's music heard upon her deck—
The mariner's song of home—
When meon and star beams iniling meet
At midnight on the cea—
And there is mark—once a week
In Soudder's balcony.

The moonlight music of the waves
In storms to heard no more,
When the living lightning mooks the wreck
At misnight on the shore,

And the mariner's erg of home has ceased, His corse is on the sea-And music ceases when it rains In Scudder's ballony.

After the expiration of the free lease of ten years, or shortly afterwards, the above societies and institutions not connected with the city government, removed from the building, and it was taken possession of by the Corporation for public purposes. Part of it was granted or leared to the United States for the use of the District and Circuit Course, the District Attorney, Clerk of the District Court, and United States Marebal, and part was occupied by the Court of Sessions, over which the renowned Richard Riker, the Recorder of the cl'y, presided for many years. The Marine Court was also located in the building. When the Court of Sessions was removed to the Halls of Justice, or Egyptian Tembs, (as the buildings in Centre street are generally called,) the American Institute obstreet are generally danced,) the American insultate op-tained from the Common Council a grant of the west end of the building, at a nominal rent, and occupied the room for several years: but the institute were finally driven out in consequence of the city government requirirg the use of the building for public purposes. A few years since the building under went extensive repairs and alterations, under the supervision of Alderman Grolius and others, as a committee of the Common Council. and others, as a committee of the destined for preservation for many years, as one of the few remnants of the public buildings of the last century, and a memento of more economical and simple times than the present. But the destructive element which so often visits us with desolation spares not the simple edifices of the past any more than the palaces erected by the present generation; and the only wonder is that a building composed of combustible materials like the New City Hall, no r in ruins, should have stood in this city of confiagrations for the long period of mearly sixty years. Before the recent repairs and improvements were made on the building it was proposed to take it down, and exect a new Hall on the site. The to take it down, and erect a new Hall on the site. wants of the city for such a building for public purposes and the spirit of the age will doubtless cause the immediate erection of a new building worthy of this metropolis, and one which shall be an ornament to this section of the city until the time shall arrive when the public will call for the removal of the public buildings from the

BURTON'S, CHAMBERS STREET.

The persons who had scoured seats for Thursday evening's performance, this woodship postprined by the fire at the New City Hall, can have their certifications renewed for any night they may select, during this wick or the next, on application at the box office.

W. E. Burton returns his heart'els thanks to the many friends who crowded round his establishment as the first suspicion of danger.

Cambers street Jan. 20, 1864.

Park to a more convenient central location up town.

picton of Sanger.

Uambers street Jan. 20. 1854.

THE CORONER'S OFFICE.

In consequence of the desiruation of the office of the Coroner by the three office will, satisfactly opposite the Park Coroner Street Stree

Police Intelligence.

Arrel of Two Shopiffer — Yesterday officers Ailson and Conley arrested two young non, named William Jackson, and John Martin, charged with steeling thirty doese silk cravata, valued at \$400, from the store of Stone & Co., 49. Excharge lace. The accused parties acknowledged selling the goods to two receivers, one in Grand street and the other in Walker street. As yet the officers have not recovered any of the property. The accused parties were locked up for examination.

From the second story to the roof, all was burned.

There were in this portion of the building, however, no public offices or property of importance. The building is a total loss to the city, as the corporation never insures its property.

THE LAW LIBRARY.

The law library, in the west end of the building, was the most valuable personal property in jeopardy, inase the most valuable personal property in jeopardy in the most valuable personal property.